

# Former Greenhouses and other auxiliary structures at Botany and Zoology Building

Herrick Archives Number H 225

## A. IDENTIFICATION & LOCATION

### 1. Name

1.1 Never officially named by Board of Trustees action.

1.2 Alternate names noted for parts of building:

Insectary

Fumigating Building

Potting Shed

See Addenda Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, 8

See Addenda Nos. 2, 4

### 2. Location

2.1 Located adjacent to Botany and Zoology Building (014), the address of which is 1735 Neil Avenue.  
See report for Building 014.

### 3. General Description

3.1 These buildings were constructed in stages as indicated in the sketch below.

3.1.1 Section A comprising houses 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 totalled 3,157 sq. ft. (A) was the first to be built.

3.1.2 Section B comprising houses 8, 9, and 10 with an area of 1,555 sq. ft. (A) and Section B', a brick "Insectary" building of approximately 1,000 sq. ft., were added very shortly.

3.1.3 Section C was a potting shed of about 750 sq. ft.

3.1.4 Section D is an unidentified protrusion at the back of the main building 014. It appears on the original drawings of the main building only in the foundation plan. Part of it was removed under the contract for the first addition to the main building (014) and the remainder still stands/ even though it does not show on current plans.

3.1.5 Section E is an unidentified structure shown on the plot plan for the first addition to the main building (014). It is no longer standing. It was about 17' x 30'.

See Addendum No. 2

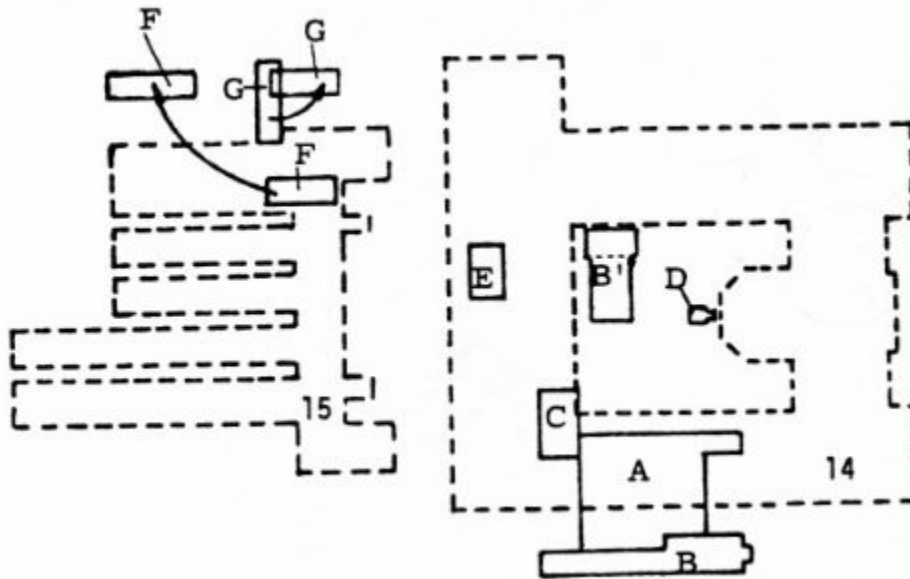
3.1.6 Section F is an unidentified structure shown on the plot plan for the construction of the

present greenhouses (015) under Project No. 4727 of the University Architects office. The plot plan specifies relocation as shown by the arrow, and the building carries the name "Insectary" on the drawing. It is possible that a recently-demolished dilapidated frame structure in the southwest corner of the fenced area north of the greenhouse is this building, but this has not been established. The building was about 12' x 48'.

See Addendum No. 3

3.1. 7 Section G, like Section F, is unidentified and is from the plot plan for Project 4727. It carried the name "Fumigating Building" on that plan and was to be moved as indicated by the arrow. This building is not now standing. The building was about 12' x 37'.

See Addendum No. 3



## B. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION--SECTION A

1. On June 6, 1913 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents prepared by Lord and Burnham and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors.
2. Bids were received on August 6, 1913 (T).
3. On August 6, 1913 the Board of Trustees awarded the construction contract to Lord and Burnham.
4. Completion and occupancy:

The completed building was accepted by the Board of Trustees on December 12, 1914.

## C. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION--SECTION B

1. On March 30, 1915 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents prepared by Lord and Burnham and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors.
2. The Board of Trustees on May 18, 1915 awarded the construction contract to the Foley Glass Manufacturing Co.
3. The Board of Trustees on October 5, 1915 approved payment of the final estimate.

4. The area of Section B, according to records in the office of the University Architect was 1, 555 sq. ft.

#### **D. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION—SECTION B'**

1. Section B' was built as the "Insectary" under the same contract as Section B.
2. The building was approximately 1, 000 sq. ft. in area and was at least partly of brick construction (Note: There is in the University Archives (Box 6/f-1/1) a letter dated December 16, 1914 to the Foley Greenhouse Manufacturing Co. from the University Architect stating that the contract for the "Insectary" was awarded to McCall and McCoy of Columbus, but no supporting evidence has been found in the Board minutes or the files of the University Architect.)

#### **E. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION--SECTION C**

1. On July 16, 1928 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents prepared by J. N. Bradford and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors.
2. Bids were received on September 18, 1928 (A).
3. On September 21, 1928 the Board of Trustees approved the Cabinet action of September 19, 1928 awarding contracts to the following contractors:

Plumbing: W. H. Spohn Plumbing Co.

Electrical: Electric Power Equipment Co.

4. On October 28, 1928, on the basis of new bids, the Board of Trustees approved the Cabinet action of October 9, 1928 awarding the general contract to L. R. Moor.
5. On February 11, 1929 the Board of Trustees accepted the building from the contractors. All of the final estimates are dated January 8, 1929.

#### **P. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION--OTHER SECTIONS**

1. Sections D & E appear on the plot plan for the first addition to Building 014 without identification. No information has been sought from other sources.

See Addendum No. 2

2. No information has been found relative to Sections F & G, except as noted in Part A of this report.

#### **G. DEMOLITION**

1. Section D and that portion of B' above the dotted line in the sketch were removed under the contract for the construction of the first addition to Building 014, which was let by the Board of Trustees on December 8, 1930.
2. Sections A, B, and C were removed under the contract for the construction of the second addition to Building 014, which was let by the Board of Trustees on June 14, 1948. Plans for this project specified that the remaining part of Section B" was "to remain. "
3. Dates for the removal of the remainder of B' and E have not been determined.

See Addendum No. 2

4. A building removed in June, 1972 may have been Section F.

5. Date of removal of Section G has not been determined.

See Addenda Nos. 2, 3

## H. COSTS

1. Business Office reports apparently include costs of these structures in the cost of the main building (014).
2. Records in the University Architect's office indicate the following costs:
  - A \$7,631.90
  - B \$4,130.00
  - B' not determined. Probably included B.
  - C \$5,023.48
  - D-G no record.Business Office reports carried C at \$4, 870. 05.

## I. PHOTOGRAPHS

1. In Photoarchives:
  - X 1371--greenhouse portion of insectary.

See Addenda Nos. 4, 5

John H. Herrick  
August 25, 1972

## ADDENDUM NO. 1

A reference has been found to a "bean beetle control house" as a part of this group. Whether or not this was the same as the "insectary" has not been determined.

See Addendum No. 2

John H. Herrick  
February 17, 1976

## ADDENDUM NO. 2

A conference with Emeritus Professor Dwight DeLong brought forth the following information:

1. The "bean beetle control house" referred to in Addendum No, 1 was Section G in the sketch on the second page of this report. This structure was used to house imported insects and was referred to as the "Importation Insectary" or the "USDA Importation Insectary." It has been demolished within the past 5 or 6 years.
2. Section G in the sketch was an aviary. It was the building removed in June, 1972.
3. Section E in the sketch was a screened insectary for summer use only, which was operated in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It was removed at the same time as

Sections A, B, and C.

4. The remainder of B' was removed when the second addition of Building 014 was constructed.

See Addendum No. 3

John H. Herrick

June 1, 1976

### ADDENDUM NO. 3

Buildings F and G on the sketch in Part A of this report were demolished during the summer of 1972. They were gone by July 28, but the exact date of demolition has not been checked.

Professor Loren Putnam confirms that F was the old insectary, and that it was later used by Professor Ernest E. Good for housing mink and otter. He also confirmed that G was the old "fumigating building" and was later called the "aviary". According to Professor Putnam, both buildings were called the "Bird Labs."

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In a report which Professor Putnam showed me today, F was called the "West Lab" and G was called the "East Lab".

Buildings F and G are shown on Sheet 109 in the book of campus maps in the University archives.

See Addendum No. 6

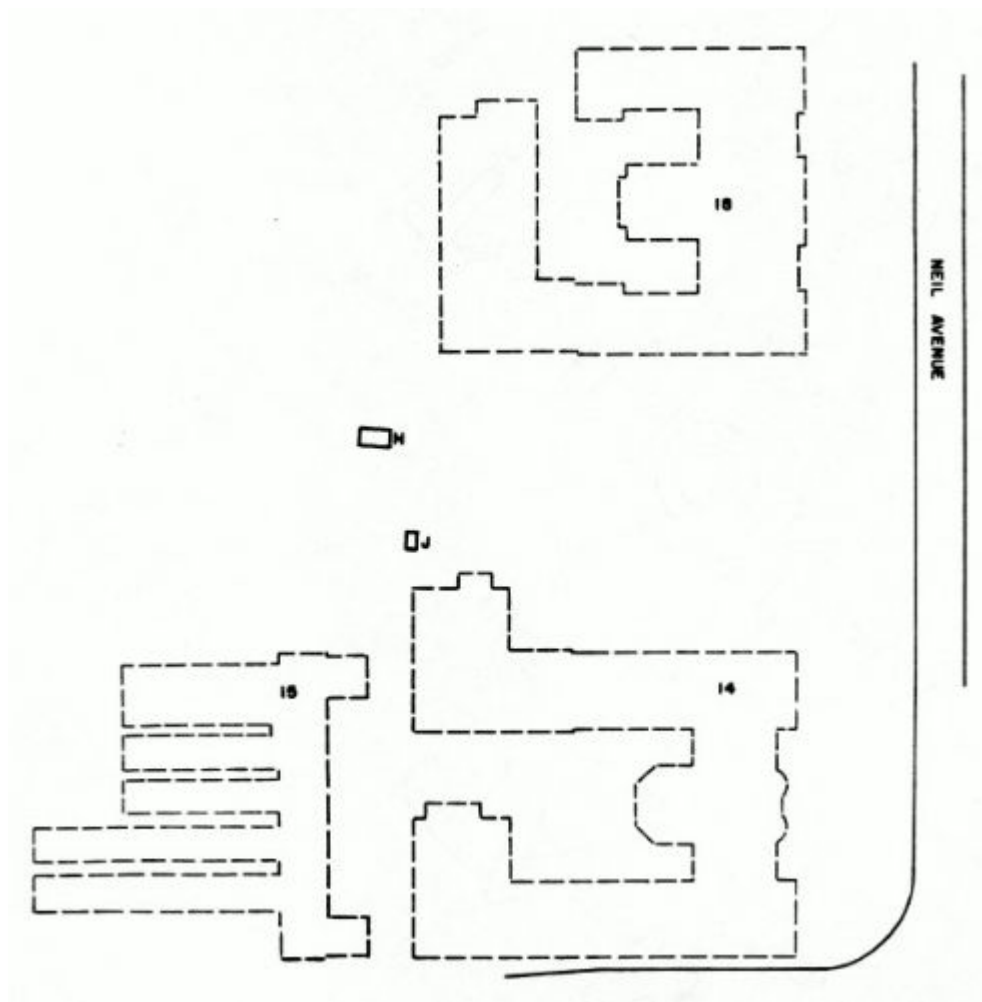
In the sketch in Part A of this report, the H225 buildings are shown by solid lines. The present buildings (014 and 015) are shown by broken lines.

John H. Herrick

October 6, 1977

### ADDENDUM NO. 4

Map 194-27, Part 1 (January 1946) shows two unidentified frame buildings between the present greenhouses (015) and Campbell Hall (018). These are shown as H and J on the map below.



When Professor Loren Putnam came to the University in 1947, he was given the use of Building "H" as an aviary.

It was used by him for only a few years before it was demolished. He thinks that it was demolished in 1948 or 1949. It appears in a February 18, 1949 photograph (X 22976). Thus, it would seem that the building came down in 1949 or soon thereafter.

The date of construction of Building "H" has not been established. The earliest indication is Map 194-27 (January, 1946).

Building "H" was not of typical greenhouse construction, and possibly was not a greenhouse. It had a long sash on the south side, with the panes of glass overlapped, as in a greenhouse. These sash were salvaged and used to enclose Buildings "F" and "G" after their relocation.

Photographs of Building "H" include X 1025 and X 22976.

No information has been found concerning Building "J."

John H. Herrick  
May 16, 1979

## ADDENDUM NO. 5

The Lantern on April 21, 1925 carried a story on the development of a process for extracting oil from vegetables. The inventor of the machine was Edwin Lawrence. He worked in a small "shack" back of the Botany and Zoology Building (014). The article included a photograph of the shack and called it "Soy

Bean Hall."

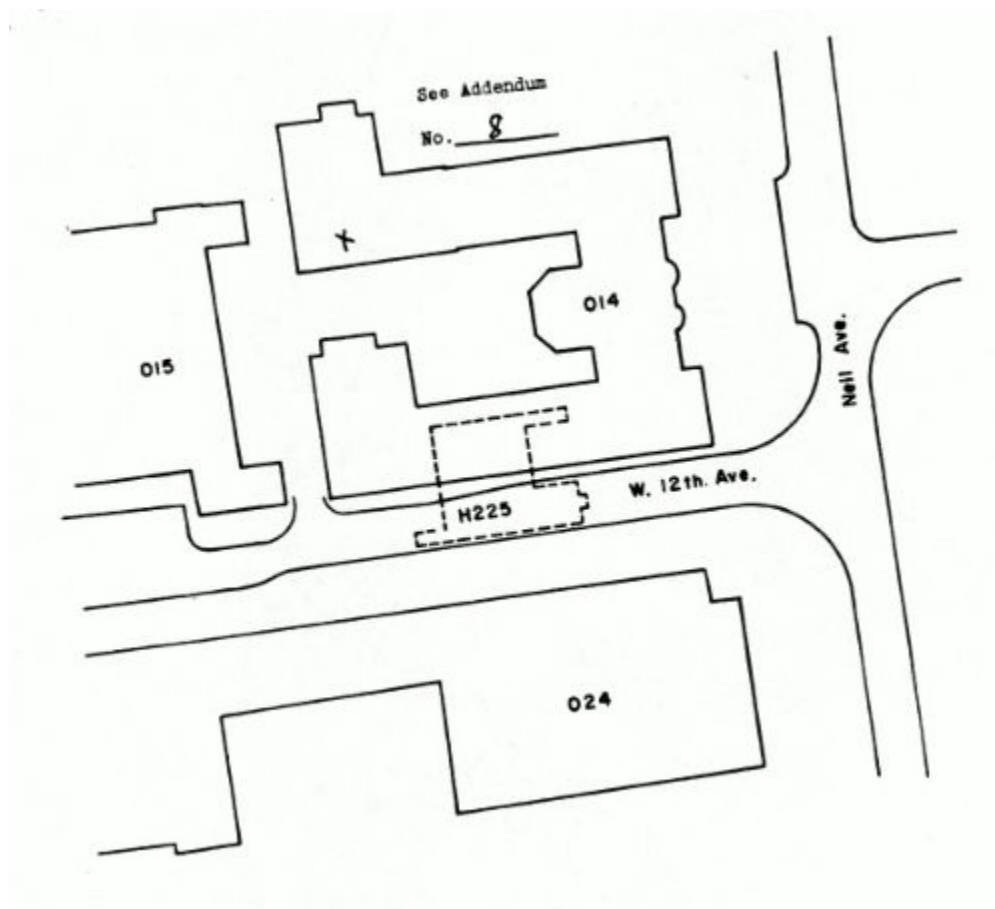
The Ohio State Journal for April 19, 1925 (p. 6) carries the same photograph, as well as photographs of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence. This story, along with another account in the Agricultural Student for April 1925 (31:180) reveal that Mr. Lawrence was an engineer, who was educated in England and Scotland, and that the machines which he had developed in Soy Bean Hall would soon be taken to Calcutta where he would be the manager of the India Industrial Mission. The Columbus city directory for 1924 lists Mr. Lawrence as a missionary.

Photoarchives has recently received a collection of pictures by H.D. Brown showing the planting of asparagus

in 1925 in the general vicinity of the present University Hospital (089). Soy Bean Hall appears clearly in five of these pictures (X 25000, X 25001, X 25002, X 25003, and X 25004). Photograph X 22972 (c 1921) shows what appears to be the same building, except that it lacks the large, square vent stack that appears on all of the 1925 pictures. It seems likely that the building in X 22972 was modified by the addition of the vent stack to accommodate the research by Lawrence.

The exact location of Soy Bean Hall cannot be determined from the photographs, but it appears to have been

near the southwest corner of the greenhouses (H 225), possibly within the limits of the present West Twelfth Avenue or on the site of the present Postle Hall (024). See map below.



For identification of buildings shown, see Appendix A.

John H. Herrick  
October 15, 1979

### ADDENDUM NO. 6

F and G appear on the July 1965 edition of Sheet 109 in the book of campus maps in the University Archives. They are the two small buildings north of the main greenhouse, and are designated "15" along with the greenhouse.

John H. Herrick  
October 26, 1979

### ADDENDUM NO. 7

Inspection of old campus maps reveals the following additional names for this building:

Botany Greenhouse

Botanical Greenhouses

Hot House

John H. Herrick  
November 13, 1979

### ADDENDUM NO. 8

The following additional name for this building has been found on old campus maps:

Insect House

Map 194-27 dated January 1, 1946, shows a small building at about the X in the sketch of Building 014 in Addendum No. 5 above. This building has not been identified.

John H. Herrick  
September 21, 1981